

Advancing Manufacturing Skills

A Skills, Training and Workforce Development Strategy for the Manufacturing Industry in Queensland



Manufacturing in Queensland is embarking on a journey to transition to the global environment of Industry 4.0 – the fourth industrial revolution. The industry has a positive outlook and its diversity contributes significantly to the strength of the Queensland economy.

Manufacturing diversity in Queensland

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Some of the diverse manufacturing sectors supporting innovation and transformation to advanced manufacturing include:

Life sciences, biotechnology and renewable energy

– growth and innovation in medicines and medical research, new bio-products, tropical sciences, renewable energy feedstocks and energy efficiency.

METS (mining equipment, technology and services)

– Brisbane and regional service clusters supply Australian resource operations and export to global resource growth zones.

Far North Queensland is in the Tropics zone

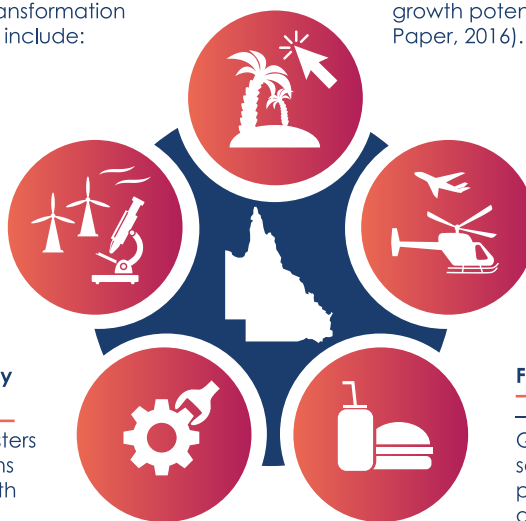
– and is considered to have significant future growth potential (Northern Australia White Paper, 2016).

Defence and aerospace

– supporting global supply chains in defence; aerospace supply chains meeting the needs of defence and commercial aerospace in Australia and in the Pacific.

Food and beverage manufacturing

– a leading export sector in the Queensland economy and growth sector based on the quality of food products and innovation in new food and beverage products.



Advancing Manufacturing Skills is a skills, training and workforce development strategy to assist all Queensland manufacturers to develop the workforce they need during a time of significant change. This will support the achievement of the vision for the industry outlined in the *Queensland Government Advanced Manufacturing 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan*.

The strategy is underpinned by significant contributions from the Queensland manufacturing industry and its workforce.

Advancing manufacturing is a journey that includes everyone

Rather than being a workforce development strategy for a small and very advanced segment of the industry, the strategy has been developed to support all manufacturers in Queensland to participate in the journey towards advanced manufacturing. It found that:

- A highly skilled manufacturing workforce will be a critical driver of competitiveness for the industry into the future.
- Strong manufacturing ecosystems at sector and regional levels can support the transition to advanced manufacturing.
- The vocational education and training (VET) system plays a critical skills development role for the industry.
- The transition to advanced manufacturing is creating an industry that offers stable, diverse and technology-rich careers.
- Active partnerships are needed between industry, schools, training providers and universities to prepare the workforce of the future for the opportunities available in the industry.

10 priority action areas



Position the manufacturing workforce as a key partner in the journey towards advanced manufacturing.



Strengthen the business capability of manufacturers.



Build the understanding of and capability related to business management, innovation and productivity.



Support industry-led ecosystems.



Foster continued industry opportunity growth.



Strengthen the role of apprenticeships and traineeships and the VET system.



Build a highly skilled, adaptable and capable existing workforce.



Increase the diversity of the manufacturing workforce.



Position manufacturing as a first choice career.



Facilitate enhanced partnerships and engagement.

Manufacturing in Queensland is on an exciting journey and one that the strategy aims to accelerate by ensuring a highly skilled, engaged and adaptable workforce for the future.

To read the full report, visit www.jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/advancingmanufacturingskills